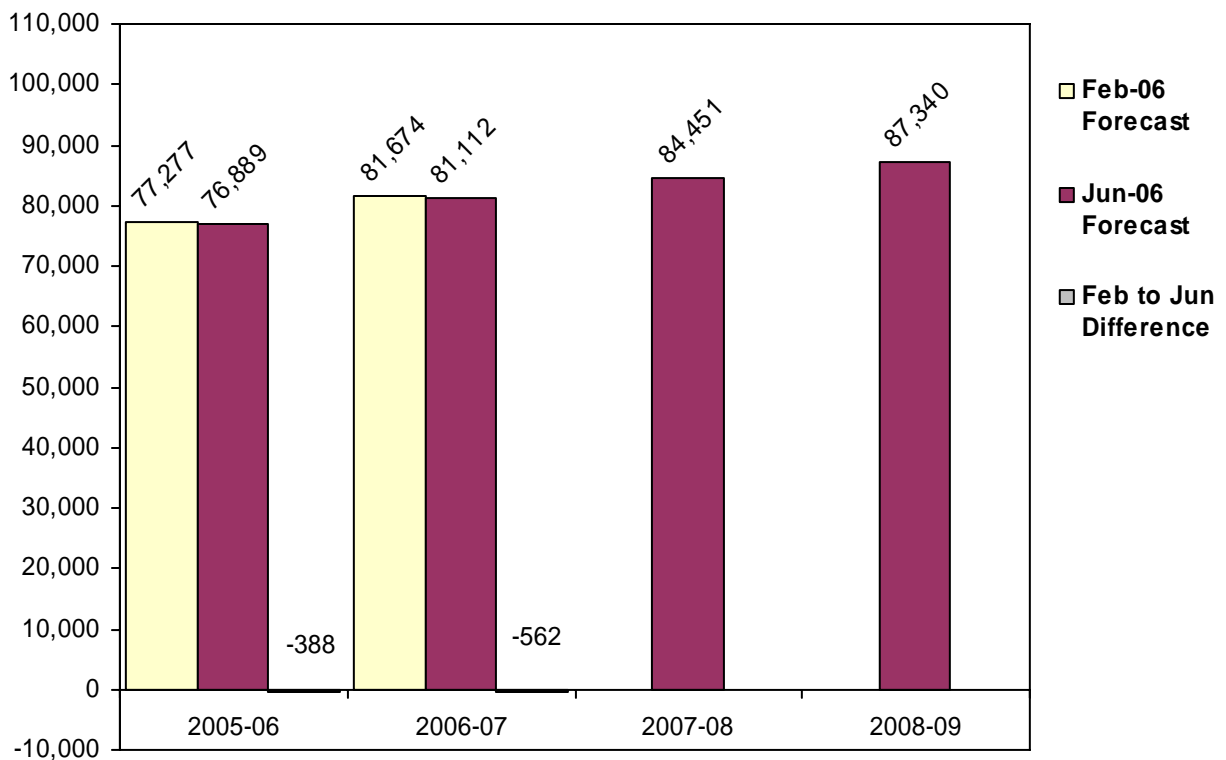


Bilingual Education Enrollment (HC)



Forecast Comparisons (Eight Month Average)

School Year	Feb-06 Forecast	Jun-06 Forecast	Feb to Jun Difference	Percent Difference
2005-06	77,277	76,889	-388	-0.5%
2006-07	81,674	81,112	-562	-0.7%
2007-08		84,451		
2008-09		87,340		

The Bilingual Education enrollment is forecast in terms of an eight month (October – May) average headcount (HC). Bilingual enrollment is reported monthly by local school districts.

- Bilingual Education programs vary significantly from district to district. Models include “dual language,” “transitional” native language support through the use of “pull-out” instruction in the native language, and ESL models where the emphasis is on English language acquisition. About 57 percent of instruction is provided by teacher aides, as opposed to certificated staff.
- Bilingual enrollment, as a percentage of K-12 enrollments, has been increasing steadily from 1.6 percent in 1984 to 7.3 percent in 2004. While Spanish remains the predominant language, 141 foreign languages are represented among the Bilingual Program students.

Tracking the Current Forecast

	Feb-06			Percent
	Forecast	Actual	Variance	Variance
Sep-05	70,422	70,596	174	0.2%
Oct-05	77,434	77,194	-240	-0.3%
Nov-05	77,563	77,355	-208	-0.3%
Dec-05	76,875	76,700	-175	-0.2%
Jan-06	76,628	76,413	-215	-0.3%
Feb-06	77,068	76,687	-381	-0.5%
Mar-06	77,279	76,850	-429	-0.6%
Apr-06	77,560	76,858	-702	-0.9%
May-06	77,807	77,051	-756	-1.0%

- The June 2006 forecast is 388 students lower than the February 2006 forecast for the current school year. The reductions in the forecast reflect a correction to the reported October enrollment (240 HC) as well as lower than expected month to month retention rates from February to May 2006.
- The new forecast for 2006-07 is lower than the February forecast, reflecting the impact of the revised estimates for 2005-06 bilingual enrollments as well as the use of a more conservative (average of 2004-05 and 2005-06) model for enrollment growth over the course of the school year.

Bilingual Education Caseload Change

School Year*	Caseload Change	Percent Change		Caseload
2001-2002	3,008	5.1%	Actual	62,522
2002-2003	3,737	6.0%		66,258
2003-2004	4,650	7.0%		70,908
2004-2005	4,347	6.1%		75,255
2005-2006	1,633	2.2%	Forecast	76,889
2006-2007	4,224	5.5%		81,112
2007-2008	3,339	4.1%		84,451
2008-2009	2,889	3.4%		87,340

* Change from prior year

- Bilingual enrollment is expected to continue to grow by an average of 3.8 percent over the 2005-07 Biennium and 3.8 percent over the 2007-09 Biennium.

The Bilingual program growth rate is about 6 times the expected K-12 growth rate. The higher Bilingual growth rate probably reflects a number of factors including:

- Over 50 percent of in-migration to the state is foreign born.
- Immigrant families tend to be larger and younger than native (Washington) born families.
- A significant portion of state employment opportunities are in lower paid occupations such as manual labor, landscaping, and the service industry, occupations that traditionally employ a large number of non-English speaking employees may be attracting non-English speaking families from other states.
- A Bilingual Education program philosophy favoring a five year or longer length of stay may be leading to an increased length of stay in the program.

Risks to the Forecast

The most substantial risk to the forecast involves the impact of a tightening of immigration (both legal and illegal) on net migration into the country. The lower than expected bilingual program growth in 2002-03 and 2005-06 may well represent the impact of actual or perceived tightening of immigration controls. Additional restrictions may further reduce growth.